

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 CU-02 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

AID-05 USIA-06 HEW-02 SP-02 SAM-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /059 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2408

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: USEGJC OSCITPHY EG

SUBJECT: FY 76 GRANT SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

1. DURING PRESENTATION OF GOE AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, MFA CULTURAL RELATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION (CRTCA) OFFICIAL SAFWAT BARAKA TOLD EMBOFF THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATION AND APPROVAL OF US SCIENTIFIC GRANT PROGRAM HAS BEEN GIVEN TO CRTCA VICE NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION. CRTCA OPERATES UNDER DIRECTION OF UNDERSECRETARY MOHAMED RIAD IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF HIGHER COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION. AS RESULT, BARAKA INTERESTED IN PLANS FOR FY 76 GRANT PROGRAM. SPECIFICALLY, HE WANTED TO KNOW IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE FY 76 PROGRAM READY FOR PRESENTATION AT UPCOMING MEETING OF JWG ON TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN WASHINGTON.

2. EMBOFF NOTED DRAWING UP OF FY 76 PROGRAM IS TIME CONSUMING PROCESS BECAUSE OF NUMBER OF INDEPENDENT USG AGENCIES INVOLVED. IT IS UNCERTAIN, THEREFORE, THAT PROCESS CAN BE COMPLETED BY TIME OF JWG MEETING. EMBOFF POINTED OUT MEETING DATE NOT YET SET, THOUGH MID-MAY BEING TALKED ABOUT. EMBOFF AGREED SEND REQUEST TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSIDERATION.

3. BARAKA THEN EXPLAINED THAT HIS OFFICE HAS BEEN CHARGED

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WITH SCREENING SCIENTIFIC GRANT PROGRAM FROM A DEVELOPMENT

PRIORITY STANDPOINT. NOTING DECENTRALIZED NATURE OF THE GRANT SYSTEM, EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT BY TIME PROJECTS ARE INSCRIBED ON ANNUAL LIST AS PRESENTED TO MINISTRY FOR APPROVAL, THEY HAVE BEEN INFORMALLY DISCUSSED BY TWO SIDES ON TECHNICAL LEVEL AND JUDGED TO HAVE SCIENTIFIC MERIT. AT PRESENT, UTILITY TO US AND SCIENTIFIC MERIT ARE SOLE CRITERIA ON US SIDE. BARAKA AGREED THAT JWG SHOULD DISCUSS PRIORITIES FOR THE PROGRAM.

4. COMMENT: PROVIDED FY 76 LIST CAN BE DRAWN UP IN TIME, JWG MEETING MIGHT BE A USEFUL FORUM TO PRESENT IT. REQUEST DEPT'S VIEWS RE FEASIBILITY OF DOING SO.
EILTS

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